AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1-5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A device in a vehicle for monitoring the environment around the vehicle, comprising:

an environment sensor system having a predetermined detection range; and

an analyzer module for analyzing a signal of the environment sensor system, wherein the analyzer module selects and tracks at least one object in the predetermined detection range by determining an attention range as a function of at least one predetermined parameter, and wherein the attention range includes a threshold distance at which a restraint unit associated with the vehicle is triggered, wherein the threshold distance is selected to optimize, based on a duration required for deployment of the restraint unit, a triggering time.

7. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the at least one predetermined parameter includes one of a relative speed between the vehicle and the at least one object, a direction of the relative speed, a curve radius, and a type of traffic.

8. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 7, wherein the analyzer module is connected to at least one restraint unit associated with the vehicle, the analyzer module triggering the at least one restraint unit as a function of tracking of the at least one object.

9. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein the at least one restraint unit is a reversible-type restraint unit.

10. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 9, wherein the at least one restraint unit is one of a reversible seatbelt tightening system and an extensible bumper.

11. (Canceled).

12. (New) The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the threshold distance is adjusted along a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis of the vehicle in response to changes in the at least one predetermined parameter, the adjustment along the longitudinal axis being independent of the adjustment along the transverse axis.

13. (New) The device as recited in claim 6, wherein a perimeter of the attention range is limited to the detection range of the sensor system and conforms to a general shape of the detection range while varying in size according to the threshold distance.

14. (New) The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the threshold distance is adjusted along a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis of the vehicle in response to changes in the at least one predetermined parameter, the adjustment along the longitudinal axis being independent of the adjustment along the transverse axis, and wherein a perimeter of the attention range is limited to the detection range of the sensor system and conforms to a general shape of the detection range while varying in size according to the threshold distance.

15. (New) The device as recited in claim 14, wherein the at least one predetermined parameter includes one of a relative speed between the vehicle and the at least one object, a direction of the relative speed, a curve radius, and a type of traffic, wherein the analyzer module is connected to at least one restraint unit associated with the vehicle, the analyzer module triggering the at least one restraint unit as a function of tracking of the at least one object.

16. (New) The device as recited in claim 15, wherein the at least one restraint unit is a reversible-type restraint unit.

17. (New) The device as recited in claim 15, wherein the at least one restraint unit is one of a reversible seatbelt tightening system and an extensible bumper.

18. (New) The device as recited in claim 6, wherein the at least one predetermined parameter includes one of a relative speed between the vehicle and the at least one object, a direction of the relative speed, a curve radius, and a type of traffic, wherein the analyzer

module is connected to at least one restraint unit associated with the vehicle, the analyzer module triggering the at least one restraint unit as a function of tracking of the at least one object.